



**“COMMON WAR”
ROCKS CUPERTINO’S
HOMESTEAD BOWL
AND THE X BAR**

**SAN JOSE BRINGS
IN LUNAR NEW
YEAR IN FESTIVE
FASHION**



**Hi: 69°
Lo: 45°**

**WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 25, 2015**

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Spartan Daily

Serving San Jose State University

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\$520 million lawsuit filed against SJSU

BY RAECHEL PRICE & MARISSA TRIGOS
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The parents of former San Jose State student Gregory Johnson Jr., an African-American student found dead in his fraternity in 2008, filed a \$520 million federal lawsuit against SJSU, the University Police Department and Sigma Chi Fraternity on Feb. 18.

Denise Johnson and Gregory Johnson Sr. are claiming negligent infliction of emotional distress and civil rights abuses in their complaint filed at the federal court building in San Francisco. In addition to the \$520 million in damages, the family is demanding a trial by jury.

“We encountered statement inconsistencies, bizarre responses and an eerie set of circumstances that gave rise to more questions than credible answers,” the complaint states.

The filed complaint asserts the lack of ligature marks on Gregory Johnson Jr.’s neck implies he was hung after he was already dead, and further questions a “six-inch crack” the family claims to have found in the back of Gregory Johnson Jr.’s skull. The complaint goes on to state, however, that a coroner told the family the head injury occurred as part of the autopsy process.

The Santa Clara County medical examin-

er’s autopsy report states the cause of death as a ligature hanging.

The body of 20-year-old kinesiology major Gregory Johnson Jr. was found in the basement of the Sigma Chi Fraternity house on Nov. 22, 2008 by fellow fraternity member Michael Laris.

Gregory Johnson Jr.’s parents were not notified of their son’s death until seven hours

» SEE **LAWSUIT** ON PAGE 2 »

CAMPUS IMAGE



Brandon Chew | Spartan Daily

Hacky Sack enthusiast Ricardo Camarena, junior computer science major, gets in a quick session before class in front of Tower Hall on Tuesday.

Workshop teaches time management techniques

BY RAYMOND IBALE
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Surprisingly, all participants in the procrastination workshop arrived on time.

Procrastination is described as putting off an important task or assignment until the last minute before it is due.

A 2007 study published in the “Psychological Bulletin” found that 80–95 percent of college students procrastinate on a regular basis, particularly when it comes to completing assignments and coursework.

Dr. Alexandria Gerrick, faculty counselor at San Jose State, provided strategies for overcoming procrastination.

With college riddled with distractions, there’s always something more appealing for some students to do with their time than homework or studying for a test.

Geraldine Castrence, junior child development major, enjoys sleeping, playing with her dog, talking to her friends and being on her phone, which keeps her from completing school responsibilities.

Stress builds as one puts things off till the last minute, so beating procrastination takes a huge commitment.

“Just trying to lower my stress levels, I know I can get something done as long as I can space it out more. I feel like I work well under pressure but then the more I do it the more I really hate doing this to myself,” Castrence said.

One of Gerrick’s tips for completing a task like studying for a test, is to set a five-minute timer for students to read and understand a page of notes. If they’re done before the timer is up they can move ahead, and if they’ve completed the assignment they can move on to something else.

Gerrick also suggested to make a weekly outline of an assignment due the following week, set deadlines each day and eventually it will all come together in the end without going through all the stress of doing it last minute.

If an assignment is due that day, they should switch to an hourly planner to keep the task at hand in front of themselves.

According to Gerrick, using bright paper for notes is intellectually stimulating, so she highly suggests using yellow notepads for notes.

According to psychology expert Kendra Cherry’s article, “The Psychology of Procrastination,” time management is another reason that leads to procrastination. People think they can get tasks done in a short amount of time, which leads to

» SEE **WORKSHOP** ON PAGE 2 »



Vanessa Gongora | Spartan Daily

The San Jose Fire Museum features several pieces of older, firefighting equipment that will be accessible in Downtown San Jose at Old Fire Station No. 1.

Old fire station to become new museum

BY VANESSA GONGORA
@_princessness_

Downtown San Jose has a new destination coming in hot.

Old Fire Station No. 1, located at 201 N. Market St., has recently been purchased by the San Jose Fire Museum for \$1 million.

The San Jose City Council finally approved the sale after 10 years.

The fire station, built in 1951, is a historical landmark.

John McMillan, president of the museum and retired assistant fire chief, wanted to save the building and put it to good use.

“In the beginning, we tried to lease the building from the city, and the city did not want to lease it to us. The city had plans to tear it down and so we basically did our part to stop them from tearing it down,” McMillan said. “It’s been recently in the past couple of years that the city has been willing to discuss giving us the opportunity to purchase it.”

The Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the City of San Jose worked with McMillan to make arrangements for buying the fire station.

The museum found a partner, the Brandenburg Family Foundation, that was willing to spend \$1 million to help them purchase the fire station.

Brandenburg already wrote the check and will be closing escrow next week.

“It all kind of came together in the last year, but for the first 10 years we were just protecting the building from getting torn down,” McMillan said.

McMillan talked about the capital recruitment plan, which changed from a four-phase process into a two-phase process, that is taking place to get the new and improved fire museum up and running.

“The first phase is buying the station. First phase is done, we own it. Phases two, three and four are all going to become one phase,” McMillan said. “In the next five years, we’re going to raise the money, then do the construction and open it up one time completed instead of having to partially close it down and remodel.”

» SEE **MUSEUM** ON PAGE 2 »

Home Matters tackles high cost of living in Silicon Valley

BY ESTEFANY SOSA & ANDREA SANDOVAL
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Five seniors from the Public Relations Student Society of America chapter at San Jose State are raising awareness about the high cost of living in Silicon Valley through the Home Matters national movement for the PRSSA Bateman Case Study Competition.

This year, PRSSA challenged Bateman competitors to build a campaign and raise awareness about the significance of affordable housing.

Home Matters is a movement that ad-

vocates for the “new American dream,” which emphasizes housing with nurturing environments and accessibility to public services.

The Bateman team chose to partner with the Neighborhood Housing Services of Silicon Valley for its affordable housing campaign.

Neighborhood Housing Services was founded by the City of San Jose housing department in 1905. The organization’s main focus is to help individuals participate in the economy, mostly through home ownership.

On Monday, the Bateman team hosted a Home Matters seminar on campus

to educate the community about the consequences of poor-quality and overpriced housing in Silicon Valley.

SJSU alumnus Raul Peralez, city council member of District 3, and Matt Huerta, the Executive Director of Housing Services of Silicon Valley, were the keynote speakers at the event.

Huerta, who has over 12 years of experience in affordable housing and community development, gave some background on the non-profit agency.

“Unaffordable rents, and home ownership are out of control right now, that

» SEE **HOUSING** ON PAGE 2 »

» FROM FRONT PAGE »

HOUSING: Group spearheads affordable housing campaign

is why San Jose is trying to be a city that attracts people,” Huerta said.

Perezalez talked about his work as a city council member in relation to affordable housing.

“What we did in San Jose is recently pass, what I call the Housing Impact Fee, and what that is going to do is impose a fee on all of this development that is being built that is not affordable,” Perezalez said. “It’s going to generate \$17 per square foot on a new development, and what we’ll do with those funds is go out and incentivize and entice that affordable housing development.”

Perezalez said he was once a college student looking to continue to live in San Jose and own his home.

“As a matter a fact I still want to own my own home,” Perezalez said.

Huerta and Perezalez relied on the audience members to give specific examples of why homes matter.

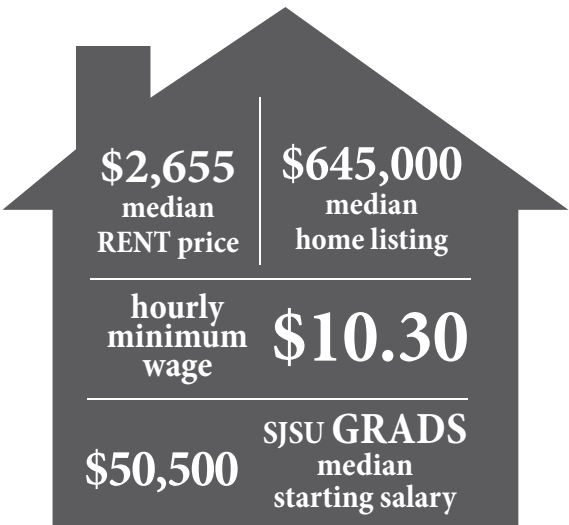
The main focus of the event was to remind people homes are essential, and without homes individuals will lack many other things in life such as access to health care, education and public safety, which in turn prevent individuals from succeeding and fostering a healthy economy.

Olivia Cartelli, part of the Bateman team, explained the campaign is more than just a competition; it’s something that affects her personally.

“Home matters to me because one of my roommates—who’s on the team—and we pay a lot of money for rent, and our home is our sanctuary,” Cartelli said. Anyone who would

like to get involved with the Home Matters campaign can visit home-mattersamerica.com.

Andrea Sandoval and Estefany Sosa are Spartan Daily staff writers.



Information compiled from: zillow.com, departmentofnumbers.com and payscale.com
Infographic by: Estefany Sosa

» FROM FRONT PAGE »

WORKSHOP: Students learn how to kick procrastination habits

procrasation and stress.

“I just feel like I can do it last minute and a lot of other things get in the way, just like all the random things that end up popping up they end up coming in the way and makes me put things off

till the last minute,” said senior finance major Gokul Varadha.

Putting off an assignment can cause students to miss deadlines.

“I had a 100-point Nike case study for my online class, it was

due at 11:59 p.m. and I didn’t start it until 10:30 p.m., and I did miss the deadline by 30 seconds,” Varadha said.

Getting students to get out of the habit of “I’ll do it later” trap, is the take home message

for the workshop.

Gerrick is hosting a test-taking workshop at the Dr. Martin Luther King Library on Thursday.

Raymond Ibale is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

» FROM FRONT PAGE »

LAWSUIT: Complaint states civil rights abuses

after police arrived at the fraternity house.

Ms. Jackson, who asked to be identified only by her last name, is a community organizer who works with graduate students at SJSU, has been working with Denise Johnson on her son’s case as a media liaison.

Jackson said she got involved after she met Denise Johnson at an event for families affected by police brutality.

“It was at time when more young people were getting involved (in civil right’s issues),” Jackson said.

She cited the coverage of the Trayvon Martin case as a catalytic moment for young activists.

In the complaint, Gregory Johnson Jr.’s family cited a number of inconsistencies in the investigation.

Laris gave university police two separate and conflicting accounts of what happened when he discovered Gregory Johnson Jr.’s body.

The complaint states during initial discussions with Laris, he told the family he found Gregory Johnson Jr. “on his knees, hanging from an extension cord.”

Laris later told university police he found Gregory Johnson Jr. “hanging by the neck, his legs stretched out in front of him with his butt an inch from the ground.”

Sean Moore, Sigma Chi chapter advisor, declined to give a statement regarding the lawsuit.

Denise Johnson is not granting interviews with the media at this time due to

concerns about being misrepresented.

Jackson said she never doubted the legitimacy of the Johnsons’ complaints.

“There were so many inconsistencies with the case that I never doubted that it was a cover-up,” Jackson said.

In December 2008, Lake County NAACP notified the San Francisco branch of the FBI of the alleged hate crime.

FBI agent Aleksandra Kobzanets reported to the family that the case went from San Francisco to Washington D.C. as a hate crime where the case eventually went cold, the complaint states.

The case went through the FBI chain of command and went cold in 2009. Gregory Johnson Jr.’s parents were denied information regarding the investigation on the grounds that it was a “matter of national security,” the complaint states.

Since his death in 2008, Gregory Johnson Jr.’s family has repeatedly expressed doubts about the supposed suicide.

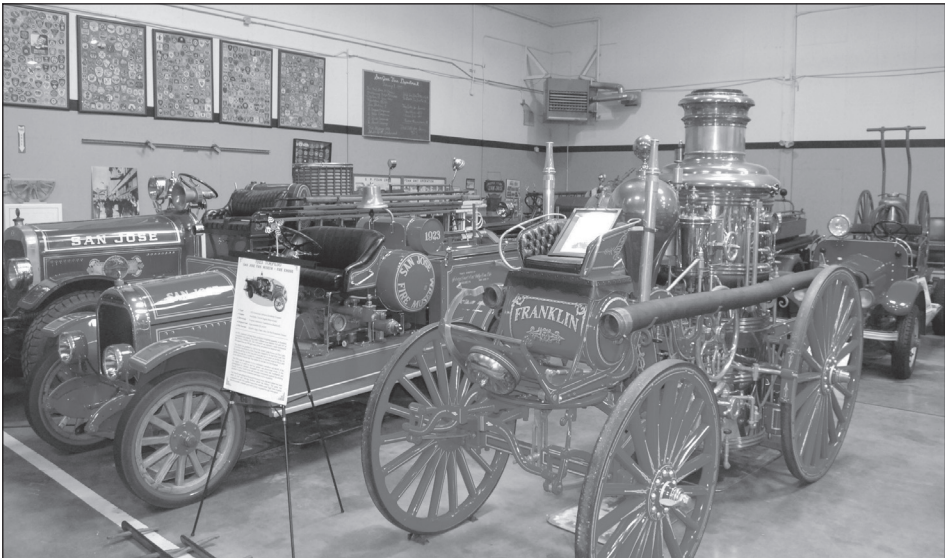
“Gregory was a strong, handsome, intelligent young minister, who loved life, was always full of joy and thrilled over college,” the complaint states.

A case management conference, where further court proceedings will be scheduled and updated information provided, is set for April 29 at 10 a.m. at the U.S. District Court in San Francisco.

Marissa Trigos and Rachel Price are Spartan Daily staff writers.

» FROM FRONT PAGE »

MUSEUM: Old fire station showcases antique firetrucks



Vanessa Gongora | *Spartan Daily*

The San Jose Fire Museum is filled with historical apparatuses including antique fire trucks and fire engines.

The museum is located in a warehouse at 1661 Senter Road #A3. It has a wide collection that consists of historical firefighting equipment and memorabilia which date back to 1810 from fire trucks and engines to bells and badges.

The badge of Hook & Ladder 1 is McMillan’s favorite piece of the fire museum’s collection because it is the original badge San Jose’s first firefighter wore in 1854.

Fire Captain Sean Lovens is also excited for the San Jose Fire Museum to be right next door to the New Fire Station No. 1.

“Here in San Jose, we’re very fortunate that we have a huge collection of antique apparatus that you can trace out not only the history of the fire department, but also the history of the city,” Lovens said. “We have a long history here in San

Jose, next year will be our 162nd anniversary.”

Lovens agrees with McMillan on how adding a fire museum downtown will attract a great amount of people.

“This museum will tie into downtown which will force kids and families to really make that trek from the south side of downtown through the north side,” Lovens said. “They will get to experience more of the city and all the attractions it has.”

Once the museum is fully developed, the San Jose Fire Department will officially own the entire block because there are no other businesses or property between the old station.

“When you are in the museum you will be able to look next door and see modern firefighters, modern fire apparatus, taking care of citizens of today as you sit and experience the

fire service and the history of San Jose next door in the museum,” Lovens said.

The fire department is not only excited for the community to experience the museum and interact with firefighters in a positive situation, but also for the firefighters to connect with other firefighters.

“Being in San Jose with over 600 firefighters, it’s going to be a really cool place for all of us to be when we are off duty and get to know each other on a personal level,” said firefighter Ryan Torchio.

The new station will be a place for out-of-towners to visit, McMillan said.

Once the old station is reconstructed, the fire museum will be complete.

The San Jose Fire Museum will take over Old Fire Station No. 1 by the year 2020.

Vanessa Gongora is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

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Dead men walk onstage

SJSU play, opening in March, trudges through socio-economic struggles of imprisoned and impoverished

By **RAPHAEL STROUD**
@randomlyralph

“Dead Man Walking” is set to open at the Hal Todd Studio Theatre on March 5, presented by the department of television, radio, film and theater.

Sister Helen Prejean wrote the book, which was first adapted into a movie then later re-adapted into a play by Tim Robbins.

The production is directed by Dr. Kathie Kratochvil, who has been directing for 35 years.

San Jose State University’s production will be the last run of the show, according to Kratochvil.

“I feel like it’s a very socially relevant piece. Even though it was written in the 1980s I think it’s relevant today,” Kratochvil said.

Set in 1980s Louisiana, the play focuses on the life of Prejean as she counsels death row inmate Matthew Poncelet.

Junior theater major DJ Fernandez plays Poncelet, while art history graduate student Lauren Doyle will play Prejean.

“I’m a pretty versatile theater person I guess. I’ve been a part of this department since 2009,” Doyle said.

Doyle calls theater her “primary passion” and met Kratochvil in an introductory acting class in 2009.

Fernandez, a transfer student from West Valley College, wanted to be an actor for years.

“One day a long time ago, I just was watching one of my favorite movies and I just really loved the acting, and acting in movies in general just always interested me and I realized that it was something I wanted to do,” Fernandez said.

During a script analysis class, Fernandez read “Dead Man Walking,” and his professor encouraged him to audition for the upcoming production.

“I didn’t think I was going to get it.

The first time I saw it, my heart was just like ‘No, no way, this is truly amazing,’” Fernandez said.

The play’s socio-economic themes hold a special interest for Doyle, who comes from a low-income family and believes that the poor are treated unfairly.

“They are absolutely turned into villains in our society and there are very specific conditions that can create criminals out of otherwise normal people and it bothers me that people choose not to acknowledge that,” Doyle said.

“(Prejean) comes from white privilege and she had this religious calling to be a nun,” Doyle said, “It was pointed out to her by a fellow nun that it is their true calling to fight for the poor and the oppressed, those who are being downtrodden.”

Fernandez’s character, Poncelet, does not have a real-life equivalent but is a composite of two inmates that Prejean knew.

Challenging roles are not new to Fernandez, but he said the depth he explored for Poncelet was a different experience entirely.

“It’s interesting, but it’s terrifying because you don’t really know what goes on inside of a person like that, but you try to immerse yourself as much as you can,” Fernandez said.

Kratochvil met Prejean during a book signing at a convention she spoke for.

“When Sister Prejean spoke, one of the things I was really impressed by was that she said there was a difference between doing art and propaganda, and this piece isn’t propaganda,” Kratochvil said.

Fernandez, Doyle and Kratochvil all agreed audiences should leave the show questioning their own opinions of the death penalty without the play falling heavily on either side of the debate.

Raphael Stroud is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

‘Common War’ remembers band member’s mayhem

By **ROSA JASSO**
@rosabjasso

When Tim Lambesis, former lead singer of Christian metal band “As I Lay Dying,” tried to hire a hitman to murder his wife, he definitely wasn’t thinking about the sixth commandment.

Lambesis, also the former lead singer of “Austrian Death Machine,” was sentenced to nine years in jail after asking Brett Kimball, his gym trainer, to murder his wife Meggan Lambesis. He, apparently, thought she would take more than half his income after their divorce.

Kimball went to the police. An undercover sheriff deputy was sent to meet with Lambesis.

Lambesis plotted to be with his adopted children during the hit to deflate suspicion against him.

Lambesis was arrested and pleaded guilty for murder. He was later released on bail but none of the band members wanted to work with him after that.

James Gericke, previous member of “Austrian Death Machine,” is now a guitarist for “Common War.” He said he did not believe the news on the singer at first and was shocked but “in the end it is what it is.”

Gericke came together in 2010 with Jason Birmingham, Mike Cambra and Malachi Kies, who were previously with other bands.

“We became a band around the time that I was still doing ‘Austrian Death Machine,’” Gericke said. “At first the band was more of a part-time, side-fun thing and then we just really started to like what we were doing, liked writing together and stuff and decided to make it more of a serious full-time thing.”

“Common War” played Saturday at the Homestead Bowl and The X Bar in Cupertino. Six bands performed that night including “The Know Nothings,” “Stay Wild,” “Letter Head,” “Tamerlane” and “Call-sign.”

About 60 people went to the show. Some sat by the bar but the majority were on the dance floor. People danced across the room like windmills turning in different directions. There was no pattern to their dancing; they moved their bodies to the deafening music.

Those who were standing around the dancers could feel the vibrations of the music hitting the floor.

Small tables were set up with personalized merchandise and accessories from each band. Band members were sitting waiting for their turn to play or listening to the other bands play.

About halfway into the concert a fight erupted outside the bar. Bar staff calmed down both parties.

“Common War” was last on the list to play and about 20 people stayed to watch.

Kies is the newest lead singer of “Common War.” He was hired two weeks after the band’s previous singer quit.

“It worked out pretty well because they were going through that and the band that I was doing really just kind of stopped doing stuff,” Kies said. “It was a pretty easy transition for me and the music was pretty awesome.”

Parker McClellan, 21-year-old local guitarist, attended his first “Common War” concert that night. He had previously heard them before going to the concert and was impressed with their performance that night.

“They definitely seemed like they were really, really involved in the music they were playing and they actually really enjoy playing it which I think is really admirable for a band,” McClellan said.

He said the band was really energetic throughout their performance and that, even though most of the crowd was not present, they seemed involved in their music and enjoyed performing it.

McClellan said they deserved a bigger crowd than the 20 people who attended.

“Common War” has a new album, “The Search,” coming out in April and is continuing their tour after Saturday’s performance.

Rosa Jasso is a Spartan Daily staff writer.

Classifieds

Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★☆

Previous solutions

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Feb 24

Crossword Puzzle

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ACROSS

- 1 High-five sound
- 5 Shoelace piece
- 10 Bird bill part
- 14 Doughnut center
- 15 France’s longest river
- 16 Impressive style
- 17 Pour but good
- 20 Innate impulses
- 21 Bond’s Fleming
- 22 Keanu Reeves’ role in “The Matrix”
- 23 Campfire fallout
- 24 “Murphy Brown” star
- 27 Fish hawk’s cousin
- 29 Chilly
- 32 Singer Grant
- 33 Sir Lance- lot du
- 36 Lacking wit or imagination
- 38 Print revealer
- 41 Common sight in Maine

DOWN

- 42 ID factor, perhaps
- 43 Bunion site
- 44 Like lemon juice
- 46 Go, to the dogs?
- 50 “Aladdin” setting
- 52 Caterer’s coffee-maker
- 55 Day-care diversion
- 56 “Cocoon” director
- 63 Protected, on board
- 64 Put in prison
- 65 Bean or certain capital city
- 66 Cincinnati ballplayers
- 67 Misty-eyed
- 68 Provides with a staff
- 1 The Alamo, for one
- 2 Repair shop substitute
- 3 Krauss or Lurie

- 4 ___-up (confined)
- 5 Alda and Ladd
- 6 “I fooled you!”
- 7 Schindler made one
- 8 Bygone times
- 9 Two hours before midnight
- 10 ___ Rapids, Iowa
- 11 Stretch out
- 12 Joplin tune
- 13 CPO’s superior
- 18 Org. in many spy novels
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Stay strong !

Keep calm.

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Right: Dancers of the Buu Kim Tu Lion and Dragon Dance Association ignite excitement at the Lunar New Year festival at Century Mall in San Jose.

Below: Costumed dancers stand in the 'caution' circle surrounded by strings of Chinese fire crackers.

Photos By Randy Vazquez



Lunar New Year festival brings fortune, fireworks and fun



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BY DUY NGUYEN
@duynguyenvn94

It was a warm and sunny weekend during the Lunar New Year festival, known as the Tét Festival in Vietnamese, held at Grand Century Mall in San Jose, California.

The event was on Saturday and Sunday, and brought out crowds of Asian-Americans, especially the Vietnamese community.

Every year the event brings the Vietnamese community and other ethnicities together. The festival helps them carry on the tradition of Tét in their families.

Kiosks were beautifully decorated with a seasonal flair by vendors in the parking lot of the mall. "Caution" areas were also prepared by the local police for the attendants' safety since fireworks would be lit in front of the mall.

Vietnamese have a common saying: "A clean beginning will make a new year flow smooth," huge effort was put towards ensuring a clean and smooth welcome to the year of the Goat.

People were dressed in beautiful outfits. In the parking lot a woman wearing a red traditional Ao Dai, brightly smiled to another woman who was wearing an apricot blossom in her silky hair.

An Ao Dai is the name of the traditional Vietnamese clothes that are very lithe and brightly colored.

People started to arrange themselves in several straight lines to welcome the American and Republic of South Vietnam flags to the stage, while singing along to the two national anthems.

The American national anthem was fantastically performed by singers Victoria Thuy Vi and Vanessa. People proudly sang along with their hand over their heart.

The second national anthem was for the Republic of South Vietnam. The song was proudly performed by a little girl, showing her pride for the old government of South Vietnam, one that many Vietnamese in California have been following.

Immediately after the song ended I heard a bang; the most exciting part of the festival, the firecracker display had begun. The huge sound gathered the attendants together. They were in circles, clapping their hands with excitement in their eyes.

It was the first time I saw fireworks being set off in front of people. Fireworks have been prohibited in Vietnam since 1994 because the Vietnamese government feared they would injure people.

The cost for a set of fireworks varied from \$60-\$1000 and most of the ones used at this festival were over \$400. Even though each set of fireworks lasted for a minute, the festivities lasted for hours.

All of the attendants are welcomed to bring their own firecrackers.

The popping of firecrackers creating smoke caused the crowd to turn away and cover their ears.

Some children, with fear on their faces, clung to their parents' legs while watching the firework displays. Meanwhile, others were braver; They excitedly ran to the caution line, and suddenly ran back to their families after breaking into tears, as the sound of fireworks became deafening.

When the fireworks ended, the ground was covered by shredded red papers. The kids wearing traditional clothes were amazed by the red papers. They ran and picked them up while their parents were taking pictures. Other teenage girls were smiling, looking in the cameras as people took their pictures.

One of the most meaningful moments of the Lunar New Year eve is when wishes are given.

As the fireworks were still going on in front of the mall, the stage began to fill with people waiting to receive the wishes from the two speakers.

They brightly smiled, and wished all of best to the attendants and the Vietnamese community in San Jose. Typical wishes include "Long life of 100 years," "Security, good health, and prosperity," "Plenty of health," "May money flow in like water." Following the fireworks was the lion dance parade.

Dances were performed by kids who hide their heads under a lion guise.

In Vietnam, this tradition is called "Mua Lan." The "lions" tried to make as much noise as possible with drums, bells, gongs and other percussive instruments. During the lion dances, the attendants handed out the red envelopes with money in them for the "lions" to catch.

Attendants wished for a happy New Year and the best of things to their families in 2015, since 2014 brought Asians in particular bad fortune with a series of plane accidents and other disasters. As 2015 came, many people wanted to scare away bad fortunes and evil spirits by holding Tét festivals with well-prepared lion dancing, fireworks and food. This year's Tét festival was so exciting it was sure to serve that purpose.

Duy Nguyen is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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Mayweather and Pacquiao brawl is long overdue

Darby Brown-Kuhn



It's finally here—the fight between Floyd “Money” Mayweather and Manny “Pacman” Pacquiao is officially happening. After more than five years of setbacks due to conflicts between both fighters’ camps, the fight will take place May 2 at the MGM Grand Casino in Las Vegas. It will have the biggest purse in boxing history. According to thestar.com, Mayweather and Pacquiao will earn around \$120 million and \$80 million respectively. The only negative about the matchup is both fighters are past their prime. Pacquiao is 36 and Mayweather just turned 38. Neither of them are as fast as they were in their prime but they still have skills honed from years of experience. Having both men fight

at this point of their careers is a tremendous letdown for boxing fans. Imagine the spectacle viewers would witness if this fight happened five or six years ago. It would be one of the most entertaining matches in the sport’s history. Don’t get me wrong, the upcoming fight is sure to be entertaining, but the clash between two fighters in the twilight of their careers is a snub to the viewers. It’s satisfying to watch competitions when the players or teams are at the peak of their powers, otherwise it’s not fun to watch. What this event reminds me of is my high school baseball career. I played all four years, including two on the varsity team. I had tools to be successful—I could hit and I had a decent arm, but I didn’t apply myself to other crucial areas of the game. Defense and base running weren’t important to me, and my lack of effort wasn’t unnoticed. In crucial late-game situations, my coach would pull me when I reached the base or I would be replaced by an outfielder who played better defensively. My mental approach to the

game was also a weakness. My confidence would fluctuate based on how I was performing and if I was in a slump or made errors in the outfield, I would become withdrawn and depressed, which is unacceptable when playing team sports. “Imagine the spectacle viewers would witness if this fight happened five or six years ago. It would be one of the most entertaining matches in the sport’s history” It wasn’t until after high school that I improved in these facets of the game and looking back on my short career, I always feel disappointed that I didn’t try to improve. I transitioned to slo-pitch softball last year and I’m a far

more effective player. I’ll admit that the sport is not nearly as difficult as baseball. It’s easier to field and hit the ball plus the base paths are about the same distance as Little League. That being said, I’m no longer a liability defensively or on the base paths—I now excel in those areas. I feel playing slo-pitch gives me a reprieve of sorts from my previous failings as a baseball player, but I constantly catch myself reminiscing about memories from those days and feeling it was ultimately a wasted opportunity. That’s what I experienced when I saw that the Pacquiao-Mayweather fight was finalized. Both men are going out with the biggest fight of their lives and earning themselves the largest single payday of their careers, but the lateness of the impending brawl leaves a sour taste in viewers’ mouths. I expect to see them duke it out with their contrasting styles, but their physical limitations due to age will be noticeable. It’s going to be a great fight, but not nearly the masterpiece that would’ve happened half a decade ago. Darby Brown-Kuhn is a Spartan Daily writer.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL
Check out Jerica Lowman’s column on the future of racial inequality IN THIS THURSDAY’S PAPER!

To limit knowledge, limits your impact on the world

Rain Stites



Have you ever dabbled in autodidacticism? Well if you haven’t, you should. Seeking out its definition on your own will bring you one step closer to becoming an autodidact. Don’t worry, it isn’t used to describe a diagnosis or addiction. Instead it describes a kind of self-inflicted empowerment. To be an autodidact merely means to be self-educated. This can be either partially self-taught or entirely self-taught. Contrary to the traditional university student, this kind of person does not bound themselves to the confines of formal education. They willingly seek out knowledge beyond the notes of the lecturer and the required textbook. If you love your major and love what you’re learning, this should be practiced as often as possible.

We have such an amazing opportunity as university students. A university is a network of individuals who, for the most part, are passionate and knowledgeable about their fields. “With little variation, everyone’s skills and knowledge would mirror all the individuals who shared the same alma mater as them” Think of this as a gateway like the on-ramp to further your journey on the highway of knowledge. The opportunities present themselves, we just need to take the initiative to act upon them. Universities make these opportunities a lot more easily accessible. Not everyone can consider themselves as fortunate as we are. Some people aren’t presented with the opportunity to attend a university. Here’s a name drop for you: Abraham Lincoln. He became the 16th president of the

United States and issued the Emancipation Proclamation that declared the freedom of slaves within the Confederacy. It’s not outlandish to say that he was one of the most influential individuals this country has ever known. Lincoln achieved his large list of life accomplishments without the opportunity of a formal education. The White House official website describes Lincoln’s life as an autodidact, stating he made “extraordinary efforts to attain knowledge while working on a farm, splitting rails for fences and keeping store at New Salem, Illinois.” Lincoln is described on the website as coming from “undistinguished family” in a “wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods.” Lincoln’s undeniable thirst for knowledge led him to success. “Of course when I came of age I did not know much,” Lincoln said in the sketch of his life. “Still somehow, I could read, write and cipher ... but that was all.” “His ambition was a little engine that knew no rest,” Lincoln’s former law partner, William Henry Herndon, wrote of him. The list does not stop at Lincoln. Steve Irwin and Jimi Hendrix are among the list of autodidacts who’ve greatly impacted the world. Irwin, conservationist and

animal expert, never attended any kind of formal schooling for biology or zoology. He learned from experience as well as from his father. Hendrix, considered one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century, could not read music. He taught himself to play guitar as a child, practicing chords on a broomstick rather than doing chores. Imagine if no one did this and everyone followed only what was taught to them in school. Our world would be cluttered with replicated drones of one another. With little variation, everyone’s skills and knowledge would mirror all the individuals who shared the same alma mater as them. Education within a classroom is important and I will always stand by its benefits. However, it’s absurd to believe the notion of university education is the best or the only way to learn. Outside knowledge accompanied by traditional university practices will enhance your skills and make you better in whatever it is that you want to pursue in life. Textbooks are limited. They can only hold a minimal amount of information. Do not limit yourself and seek out opportunity. Attend a workshop. Ask questions. Go to the library. Be an autodidact. Rain Stites is a Spartan Daily staff writer.



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Inside Look

Swimming & Diving

Freshman Morgan McCormick is the first San Jose State Mountain West Individual Champion



McCormick

With a conference record-setting performance of 1:54.13 in the 200 backstroke at the Palo Alto College Natatorium on Feb. 21, McCormick became the first San Jose State University women's swimmer to win a Mountain West Championship. Not only did McCormick become the first women's swimmer to win a MW Championship, but she is the first Spartan to win an individual championship since SJSU joined the MW in 2013.

Women's Golf

Women's golf wins Juli Inkster Spartan Invitational, senior Megan Osland takes individual title



Osland

On the final day of the 2015 Juli Inkster Spartan Invitational, three Spartans carded an even round or better to help their team win their home tournament. Osland finished her final round with a score of 70, which added up to 219 strokes on the tournament, tying with Martina Edberg of Cal State Fullerton for first place in the individual race on Tuesday at Almaden Golf and Country Club.

Men's Water Polo

SJSU Athletics announces men's water polo will be returning this Fall

After 35 years, men's water polo will return as an official Mountain Pacific Sports Federation team. Bruce Watson, a five-time Coach of the Year at West Valley College, was announced as head coach.

Information and photos compiled from SJSU Athletics

A passion for pitching sets example for young Spartans

By RIGOBERTO GOMES AND ANDREA SANDOVAL
@AskRigo,
@axsand0val

One of the top returning pitchers in the Mountain West, Kalei Contrades began his love for baseball at a young age.

"He's aggressive, doesn't have a lot of fear and is proactive with everything he does," assistant coach Nicholas Enriquez said.

The two-time San Jose State Athlete of the Month allowed just 70 hits for the team, leading 79.1 innings. This places Contrades second in the conference with 17 appearances, seven starts and a 2.50 ERA in his 2014 season.

Contrades also boasts four out of eight consecutive starts, 52 strikeouts to 10 walks on the season.

"I started at the age of five, and my dad didn't want me sitting and lounging around and he forced me to go out and be active and he chose baseball and football, and baseball was my No. 1 sport and I just stuck with it all the way," Contrades said.

In his 2013 season, Contrades held right-handed hitters to a .184 batting average in 76 at bats. He also had 19 starts as the third baseman and designated hitter, and batted .316 for the year.

As a sophomore, he played as an outfielder, designated hitter and pinch



Courtesy of SJSU Athletics

Starting pitcher Kalei Contrades strides to deliver a pitch in the Spartans' 9-8 win against Northern Colorado on Friday last week at Municipal Stadium.

hitter in 30 games. He also served as a relief pitcher in 20 games. He batted .269 with seven RBIs to score eight runs, including a double and triple.

Contrades was recruited by the current pitching coach Tom Kunis when he attended a Stanford All-Star Camp. San Diego State was also an option for Contrades, but ultimately he chose SJSU because of the great coaching staff.

When he's off the mound, Contrades is a leader for the Spartans.

"I think he plays a huge leadership role, especially with the young players that we have," Enriquez said.

"He's been here for four years and he's been around baseball and has had a lot of success."

Senior outfielder Andre Mercurio describes Contrades as more than a pitcher to the team.

"He's from Hawaii so he's a competitor, he's a grinder, he's not going to give in and every time he goes out there he knows he's going to get the guys out," Mercurio said. "He has no doubt, he has tons of confidence and he works hard, so he deserved that confidence."

Last year at the Mountain West Tournament, it was a memorable moment in Contrades' baseball col-

lege career. It was the first tournament win the Spartans had in the past four years.

Contrades played in the tournament and described the competitiveness in the conference as one of the top in the nation.

"There's the best guys coming out of the west coast, east coast and there's no slouching," Contrades said.

The Spartan baseball team's next game is on Friday against the San Diego State Aztecs in San Diego.

Rigoberto Gomes and Andrea Sandoval are Spartan Daily staff writers.

New faces, experience join Caragher's staff

By BRIAN STANLEY
@BStanleyPhotos

After building a strong recruiting class for the upcoming season, San Jose State football Head Coach Ron Caragher added fresh faces to the coaching staff.

On Feb. 16, Caragher announced the addition of Offensive Line Coach Adam Stenavich, who was the offensive line coach for Northern Arizona University last year.

"I am excited to add Adam Stenavich to our coaching staff," Caragher said in a press release. "He has a great feel for offensive football, particularly the offensive line position."

Making the jump from NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision to Division I Football Bowl Subdivision, Stenavich has three years of coaching experience which began at the University of Michigan as a graduate assistant.

"His understanding of fundamentals and schemes and his passion for teaching the game will help make a significant impact in our program," Caragher said.

Last season, with the help of Stenavich, the Lumberjacks finished with a record of 7-5 overall and 5-3 in the Big Sky Conference. The offense ranked 16th in passing yards and 34th in total offensive production in the championship subdivision.

"We welcome Adam and his family to San Jose State University," Caragher said.

Caragher made more additions to the coaching roster on Feb. 5 with the announcement of Al Borges as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach and Dan Ferrigno as the new special teams coordinator and tight end coach.

The duo of Borges and Ferrigno has more than 60 years of combined experience coaching at the college level, spending five years as coordinator on the same coaching staff and coaching against each other twice.

The addition of Borges to the Spar-

tans' staff will also mark the sixth season Caragher and Borges have worked together.

Borges and Ferrigno worked together at San Diego State University in 2009-10 before moving on together to coach the Wolverines from 2011 to 2013.

Borges was the offensive coordinator at the University of California, Los Angeles from 1996 to 2000 while Caragher was coach for wide receivers, placekickers and punters.

"Al and I go back to working together at UCLA in which we had some great success with a 20-game win streak, back-to-back Pac-10 Championships and New Year's Day bowl games," Caragher said in a press release.

With 27 years of coaching experience, Borges has been offensive coordinator at eight current bowl subdivision schools since 1995.

"Al was very influential in my development as a young coach," Caragher said. "I am fired up to be able to bring him on board as a part of our staff and program."

In 2004, Borges coordinated the offense during the University of Auburn's undefeated season. The Tigers missed an invitation to the championship game with undefeated teams No. 1 University of Southern California and No. 2 Oklahoma being ranked higher.

Auburn finished the season ranked No. 2 after beating Virginia Tech University 16-13 in the Sugar Bowl.

"Although I have never worked with Dan before, our paths have crossed and I've always had great respect for him," Caragher said.

Coaching against Caragher in rivalry games in the old Pac-10 Conference (now Pac-12), Ferrigno was the special teams coordinator at the University of California from 1996-9.

Former offensive coordinator Jimmie Dougherty has been transitioned to wide receivers coach for the upcoming season.

Brian Stanley is a Spartan Daily contributing writer.

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